

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF WISCONSIN

RUSSELL G RIENAS,

Plaintiff,

v.

Case No. 20-cv-1746-bhl

KILOLO KIJAKAZI,
Acting Commissioner
of Social Security Administration,

Defendant.

ORDER

On August 17, 2021, the Court remanded this case to the Commissioner of Social Security, pursuant to the parties' joint stipulation. (ECF Nos. 17, 18.) On November 7, 2021, the parties filed a Stipulated Motion for an Award of Attorney's Fees in the amount of \$4,020.00 and costs in the amount of \$0, pursuant to the Equal Access to Justice Act (EAJA), 28 U.S.C. §2412. (ECF No. 24.) In light of the parties' agreement, and because the Court finds that the fees incurred are both reasonable and necessary and qualify under the EAJA,

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that the request for an award of attorney's fees (ECF No. 24) is granted; an award of attorney's fees in the sum of \$4,020.00 and costs in the amount of \$0 shall be paid by Defendant in full satisfaction and settlement of any and all claims Plaintiff may have in this matter pursuant to the EAJA. These fees are awarded to Plaintiff and not Plaintiff's attorney and can be offset to satisfy pre-existing debts that the litigant owes the United States under *Astrue v. Ratliff*, 560 U.S. 586 (2010). If counsel for the parties verify that Plaintiff owes no pre-existing debt subject to offset, then Defendant shall direct that the award be made payable

to Plaintiff's attorney pursuant to the EAJA assignment signed by Plaintiff and counsel. If Plaintiff owes a pre-existing debt subject to offset in an amount less than the EAJA award, the Social Security Administration will instruct the U.S. Department of Treasury that any check for the remainder after offset will be made payable to Plaintiff and mailed to the business address of Plaintiff's attorney.

Dated at Milwaukee, Wisconsin on November 8, 2021.

s/ Brett H. Ludwig

BRETT H. LUDWIG

United States District Judge